REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending with Claims 1 and 23 being in independent form. Claims 1-2, 4, 8-10, 23-24, 26 and 29 have been amended to remove the reference numbers from the claims. Claim 1 has been amended and support for this amendment may be found, for example, in the specification on p. 6, lines 16-18. Claims 3 and 25 have also been amended and support for these amendments may be found, for example, on p. 5, line 27 – p. 6, line 2. Finally, Claim 13 has been amended and support for this amendment may be found, for example, in the specification on p. 8, lines 12-15.

The specification has been amended to place the application in better form for examination. Favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

It will be understood that the scope of the claims has not been narrowed or even changed by this Preliminary Amendment. Moreover, as already noted the claims have not been amended for reasons related to the statutory requirements for a patent but simply to improve their form and thus facilitate prosecution of this application. Accordingly, those seeking to interpret these claims should not limit them only to their literal scopes.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: July 24, 2002

Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated July 18, 2002
Marked-up Copy of Amendments to the Specification and Claims

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 10, paragraph beginning at line 14,

Changes to the configuration can be made any time and as soon as the telecommunications data processing arrangement [is restarted] receives an external signal, it is picked up and in essence a new telecommunications data processing arrangement with new behavior is born.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Amended) An arrangement for processing data in a telecommunications network, comprising one or more network elements [(10)-(12)], and operational support systems [(7)-(9)], characterized in that the arrangement further comprises a data processing network element, said data processing element comprising a data processing application [(13)], [so that] said data processing application including a plurality of data processing components, wherein

- the network elements [(10)-(12)] produce [the] event data and deliver [this] said data as input signal data to the data processing network element [(13)], and [that]
- the data processing network element [(13)] processes the inputted signal data, [and] generates an output signal data, and forwards said output signal data to [towards] the [different] operational support systems [(7)-(9)], the arrangement being further characterized in that the plurality of data processing components of the [data processing network element (13)] data processing application have a generic component interface and that the arrangement has a flexible

architecture for combining the data processing components together, where the data processing components are linked together at [the] a startup-time of the telecommunications data processing arrangement.

2. (Amended) A telecommunications data processing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that at the [start-up] startup-time of the data processing arrangement, [there is processed] a component link-up configuration file is processed [(16)], which dictates [the] an internal build-up of the data processing components within the data processing arrangement.

3. (Amended) A telecommunications data processing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that the data processing components are [linked together] rearranged or linked together at [the] a run-time of the telecommunications data processing arrangement while continuing to process incoming input.

4. (Amended) A telecommunications data processing arrangement according to Claim 3, characterized in that there is an external signal sent to the telecommunications data processing arrangement when [the] a component link-up configuration file [(16)] needs to be re-read.

6. (Amended) A telecommunications data processing arrangement according to Claim 5, characterized in that the data processing components are listed in one or more component galleries based on [the] a component name.

7. (Amended) A telecommunications data processing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that the validity of a component link-up is checked based on [the] properties of the components in question.

8. (Amended) A telecommunications data processing arrangement

according to Claim 1, characterized in that the data processing network element [(13)] is co-located with one network element [(11)].

9. (Amended) A telecommunications data processing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that the data processing network element [(13)] has

- a database [(15)], into which [the] an incoming input [(14)] is stored until it is processed
- a configuration file [(16)], and
- a data processing application [(17), which will use] for processing the incoming input [(14)] from the database [(15)] and [the] information from the configuration file [(16)] of the application [to process the data], [and to generate] generating an output signal, [(18)] and forwarding said output signal [towards] to the operational support system applications.

10. (Amended) A telecommunications data processing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that in the arrangement there are three types of components:

- producer data processing components [(19), (20)], which communicate with an external entity, are [used] for receiving input, and which produce data and forward said data [towards] to [the] producer/consumer data processing components [(21)-(24)],
- producer/consumer data processing components [(21)-(24)], which consume [data internally] internal [to the] system data, [and] produce a transformed form of [that] said data, and forward said data [towards] to [the] consumer data processing components [(25)-(27)],
- consumer data processing components [(25)-(27)], which

communicate with an external entity for [the] delivery of the output data.

11. (Amended) A telecommunications data processing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that the generic data processing component interface consists of adapters that [are the] interface [between] with the different data processing components and accomplish [the] a connection between them.

13. (Amended) A telecommunications data processing arrangement according to Claim 11, characterized in that the generic data processing component interface further comprises a configuration change support arrangement, which [is used to prevent] prevents old type of input data [being mixed] from mixing with new type of data.

14. (Amended) A telecommunications data processing arrangement according to Claim 11, characterized in that the generic data processing component interface further comprises a synchronization support arrangement, which sends a signal to a component producing the input signal data, when a [components] component cannot handle [the] a [datarate] data-rate of said input signal data.

15. (Amended) A telecommunications data processing arrangement according to Claim 11, characterized in that the generic data processing component interface further comprises a check/back-up support arrangement, in which every data processing component registers with a checkpoint component and feeds [the] said checkpoint component on a regular basis with information stating which data [the] said data processing component has processed and safely passed on to [the] a next component.

16. (Amended) A telecommunications data processing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that data processing software components

are located in a same process on [the] a same computer.

17. (Amended) A telecommunications data processing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that data processing software components are located in multiple processes on [the] a same computer.

22. (Amended) A telecommunications data processing arrangement according to Claim 1, characterized in that the data processing components having a generic [components] component interface [according to the present invention] are made part of a reusable component library.

23. (Amended) A method for setting up a telecommunications data processing arrangement in a telecommunications network, where [the] network elements [(10)-(12) are producing] produce event data used by different operational support systems [(7)-(9)], characterized in that [the] said arrangement further comprises a data processing network element [(13)] for processing [the] input data from the network elements, [(10)-(12) and] generating an output data, and forwarding said output data [towards] to the operational support systems [(7)-(9)], in which a flexible architecture between [the] data processing components, having a generic component interface, is set up by

- exporting [the] properties of [the] available data processing components within the telecommunications data processing arrangement, by
- parsing a configuration file [(16)] of the telecommunications data processing arrangement, and by
- linking the data processing components together at [the] a startup-time of the telecommunications data processing arrangement.

24. (Amended) A method according to Claim 23, characterized in that at

the [start-up] startup-time of the data processing arrangement there is processed a component link-up configuration file [(16)], which dictates [the] an internal build-up of the data processing components within the data processing arrangement.

25. (Amended) A method according to Claim 23, characterized in that the data processing components are [linked together] re-arranged or linked together at [the] a run-time of the telecommunications data processing arrangement while continuing to process incoming input.

26. (Amended) A method according to Claim 25, characterized in that there is an external signal sent to the telecommunications data processing arrangement when the component link-up configuration file [(16)] needs to be re-read.

27. (Amended) A method according to Claim 23, characterized in that the data processing components are listed in one or more component galleries based on the [component] name of said component.

28. (Amended) A method according to Claim 23, characterized in that the validity of a component link-up is checked based on the properties of the data processing components in question.

29. (Amended) A method according to Claim 23, characterized in that the component link-up configuration file [(16)] is specified in a specially defined language.

33. (Amended) A method according to Claim 23, characterized in that the data processing components having a generic [components] component interface [according to the present invention] are made part of a reusable component library.